

CLASSIFICATION **CONFIDENTIAL**
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

25X1A

COUNTRY China/USSR

25X1A

DATE DISTR. 25 Sep. 1951

SUBJECT

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE
ACQUIREDDATE OF
INFO.

REFERENCE COPY

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

NOT CIRCULATE

SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1X
REPORT NO.

1. In the Altai region of Sinkiang Province, there are two airfields at the capital, Sharasume (38-37, 47-52): a small one in town, and a larger one, called Avitan, 15 kilometers outside of town, where 4-engine planes can land. There are also small fields, suitable for single-engine planes, at Puerhoking (Burchun, 56-54, 47-44) and A'ek'ot'chai (Koktogai, approximately 59-00, 47-50).
2. At Hami (93-27, 42-48) there is a large airfield, containing from 60 to 70 planes. Other airfields have been reported at Orumchi (67-35, 43-48), Auldja (81-14, 43-55), Ashgar (79-58, 39-29), Khotan (79-56, 37-37), Pach'u (Maral bashi, 78-15, 39-46), Karashahr (66-34, 42-04), Ak'osu (79-56, 41-08) and Ch'it'ai (69-28, 44-01).
3. Minerals in the Altai region are mainly uranium, beryl, columbite, and a substance called "niepobidit" which is used to harden steel.¹ Some of the ore is packed in wooden boxes, which are heavy, and is flown out by plane.
4. Soviet geologists first appeared at Koktogai in 1946; production began in 1946.² In 1947 there were 500 local workers in these mines, with only Soviet workers permitted in some of the mines. In spring and summer convoys of 70 to 80 trucks take the ore to Burchun port on the black Irtysh River³, where it is loaded on barges and taken downstream into the Ob river. Its final destination is unknown. In winter the convoys go to Zaisan, 60 kilometers across the Soviet border⁴, then to Topolevays on Zaisan Jor, from where it is ferried down the Irtysh River. In addition to the mines around Koktogai, there are three others outside of town: one called Kustah which is 8 kilometers north of Koktogai, another, called Aarta, 12 kilometers north of Koktogai, and a third in the same general area.
5. A mine at Sarbulah, 35 kilometers southeast of Sharasume, has been in operation since 1946. The minerals produced are not known.
6. The following mines, producing minerals of types unknown, were not in operation up to the end of 1947: Kondogatai, 20 kilometers southeast of Sharasume; Chemershik, 20 kilometers northwest of Sharasume; Algadaika, 130 kilometers north of Sharasume.

25X1A

CLASSIFICATION **CONFIDENTIAL**

STATE	X	NAVY	X	NSRB	DISTRIBUTION
ARMY	X	AIR	X	FBI	ORR EV X

Document No. 1

No Change in Class. ☐☐ Declassified

Class. Changed To: TS 3 (U)

Approved For Release 2001/04/01 : CIA-RDP82-00457R008700430001-5

Date: 21 AUG 1978

By: 24

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1A

SECRET/CONTROL

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1A

-2-

7. The Soviets are operating mines in Sinkiang Province, half way between Kuldja and Chuguchak (62-57, 46-45). The minerals produced are not known.⁵
8. At Wusu (84-40, 44-28) a large oil refinery was started in 1936. It was stopped in 1942, when Madame CHIANG Kai-shek visited the area, but reopened in 1945. According to rumors emanating from Wusu, the oil deposit there is large enough to supply all the oil requirements of China and the USSR.

25X1A

1. [REDACTED] Comment. This would appear to be tungsten. A Chinese map showing the mineral resources of Sinkiang Province, dated 1947, did not indicate the presence of uranium in the area. [REDACTED] 25X1A
that a Soviet group had found rich uranium deposits, some of which may have been in the Altai area.
2. [REDACTED] Comment. The area under consideration is that reported, in less detail, in [REDACTED] The Chinese map shows tungsten east of Aoktogai. 25X1A
3. [REDACTED] Comment. Puerhoning is on the Kara Irtis River, according to available maps. 25X1A
4. [REDACTED] Comment. The distance given appears to be the distance from the border to Zaisan. 25X1A
5. [REDACTED] Comment. The Chinese map indicates tungsten deposits near the Soviet border (approximately 82- , 45-).

25X1A

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET/CONTROL

25X1A